

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DES MOINES IA  
123 PM CDT TUE JUN 01 2004

...A WET MAY AND A WET SPRING OVER PORTIONS OF CENTRAL IOWA...  
...4TH WETTEST MAY ON RECORD FOR IOWA...

THERE HAS BEEN NO LACK OF PRECIPITATION OVER MANY AREAS OF CENTRAL IOWA OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS. DES MOINES...WATERLOO...AND MASON CITY ARE THREE CITIES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED THEIR FAIR SHARE OF PRECIPITATION.

THE MONTH OF MAY WAS ESPECIALLY WET IN THESE CITIES. BOTH MASON CITY AND WATERLOO BROKE THEIR ALL-TIME MONTHLY RECORDS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY...WHILE DES MOINES EXPERIENCED THE 5TH WETTEST MAY ON RECORD. BELOW IS A TABLE OF THE TOP FIVE WETTEST MONTHS OF MAY FOR EACH CITY.

MASON CITY		
RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	2004	12.52
2	1918	8.42
3	1905	8.19
4	1980	8.09
5	1915	8.06

WATERLOO		
RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	2004	11.36
2	2000	8.60
3	1902	8.54
4	1903	7.85
5	1991	7.72

DES MOINES		
RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	1996	11.08
2	1903	10.64
3	1908	9.89
4	1883	9.76
5	2004	9.07

FOR BOTH MASON CITY AND WATERLOO...MAY 2004 RANKS AS ONE OF THE WETTEST MONTHS EVER RECORDED. BELOW IS A TABLE OF THE TOP 10 WETTEST MONTHS FOR EACH CITY.

MASON CITY		
RANK	MONTH	TOTAL
1	AUG 1980	15.76
2	SEPT 1965	14.41
3	JUNE 1954	14.35
4	MAY 2004	12.52
5	AUG 1928	12.28
6	JULY 1990	12.20
7	AUG 1979	11.71
8	JUNE 1984	11.42
9	JULY 1907	11.20
10	JULY 1999	11.15

# WATERLOO

RANK	MONTH	TOTAL
1	JULY 1999	12.97
2	JULY 1968	12.60
3	JUNE 1947	12.43
4	SEPT 1941	11.63
5	SEPT 1965	11.38
6	MAY 2004	11.36
7	JULY 1993	11.26
8	JULY 1902	10.61
9	JULY 1942	10.43
10	JUNE 1998	10.36

THE MONTH OF MAY ALSO COMPLETED ONE OF THE WETTEST SPRINGS (MARCH 1ST TO MAY 31ST) RECORDED. FOR ALL THREE CITIES IT WAS THE 2ND WETTEST SPRING ON RECORD. BELOW IS A TABLE ON THE TOP 5 WETTEST SPRING PERIODS FOR EACH CITY.

# MASON CITY

RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	1991	19.00
2	2004	18.96
3	1999	17.01
4	1896	15.49
5	1945	14.90

# WATERLOO

RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	1991	20.25
2	2004	17.00
3	1960	14.45
4	1964	14.36
5	1973	13.90

# DES MOINES

RANK	YEAR	TOTAL
1	1991	19.32
2	2004	16.76
3	1945	16.45
4	1974	15.49
5	1995	15.08

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ACCORDING TO STATE OF IOWA CLIMATOLOGIST HARRY HILLAKER...MAY 2004 PRELIMINARY RANKS AS THE 4TH WETTEST MAY ON RECORD FOR THE STATE. AVERAGE PRECIPITATION FOR THE MONTH TOTALLED 7.86 INCHES. BELOW IS A TABLE OF THE TOP 5 WETTEST MONTHS OF MAY ON RECORD FOR IOWA.

RANK	YEAR	AVERAGE TOTAL
1	1892	8.62
2	1903	8.48
3	1908	8.22
4	2004	7.86
5	1959	7.61